

**Open Houses**

Your input is valued. Two open houses have been scheduled to allow the public sufficient opportunity to review the documents and submit comments.

Refuge staff will be available at several stations located in the meeting room to answer questions and gather your comments on the Draft EA. For more information, visit our web site at: <http://go.usa.gov/YMWY>

November 28, 2012 from 4-7 pm at:  
Hampton Inn & Suites  
103 East Louise Avenue  
Lathrop, CA 95330

November 29, 2012 from 4-7 pm at:  
Rivers Partners Office  
912 11th Street, Suite LL2  
Modesto, CA 95354

Paper copies of the documents are available at:

- Cesar Chavez Central Library in Stockton
- San Joaquin County Public Libraries in Tracy and Lathrop
- Stanislaus County Library in Modesto

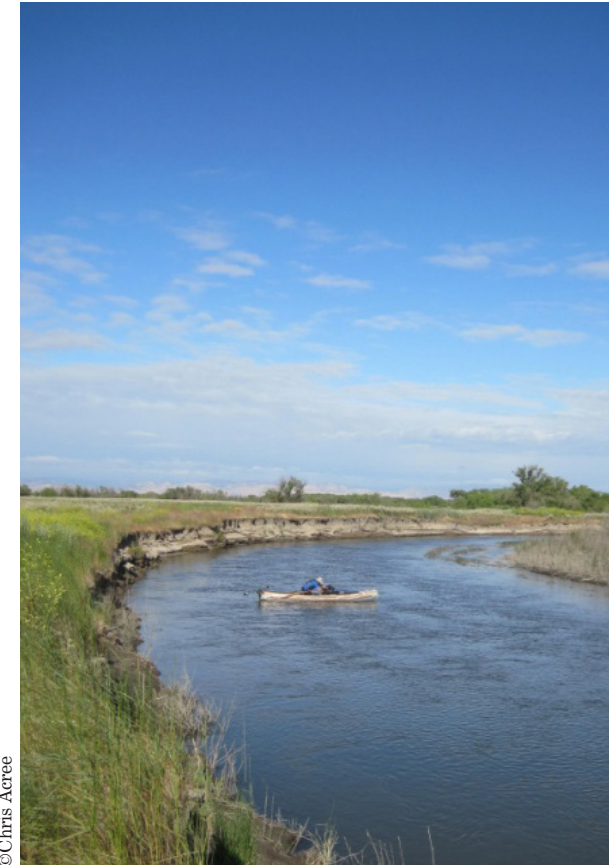
*The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is committed to providing access to this meeting for all individuals, regardless of physical or mental disability. In order to process requests for reasonable accommodations, please contact Richard Smith, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, with your request by close of business, November 16, 2012. Call 916/414 6502 or email [Richard\\_Smith@fws.gov](mailto:Richard_Smith@fws.gov).*

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Pacific Southwest Region  
2800 Cottage Way, W-1832  
Sacramento, CA 95825



# Proposed Expansion of San Joaquin River National Wildlife Refuge

## *Draft Environmental Assessment Available for Review*



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*Canoeing on the San Joaquin River.*

*The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is pleased to announce the availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment on the proposed expansion of the San Joaquin River National Wildlife Refuge. Two open houses are scheduled.*

### The Proposal

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Service) is proposing to expand the San Joaquin River National Wildlife Refuge and acquire up to 22,156 acres along the lower San Joaquin, Tuolumne and Stanislaus Rivers to protect and restore riparian habitat. Riparian restoration would benefit native species found along the San Joaquin River, including migratory birds and endangered species, which the Service has a mandate to protect.

The draft Environmental Assessment evaluates two expansion alternatives. One alternative would expand the Refuge boundary south to the confluence with the Merced River. The other alternative would include this southern expansion, and would also expand the Refuge boundary north to Lathrop.

The Service would work with willing landowners to purchase lands or easements adjacent to the river for the purposes of restoration and conservation. Landowners would be under no obligation to sell their property to the Service.



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### Information, and Documents

View information and the Draft Land Protection Plan and Draft Environmental Assessment on line at:

<http://go.usa.gov/YMWY>

There are a limited number of paper and CD copies of the documents available. To request a copy please email:  
FW8plancomments@fws.gov  
or call: 916/414-6502

Please specify which format you are requesting.

### Submitting Comments:

Comments may be submitted at the open houses, or through the following:

- Email to:  
FW8plancomments@fws.gov
- Fax to:  
916/414-6497
- Mail to:  
**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**  
Pacific Southwest Region,  
Refuge Planning  
2800 Cottage Way, W-1832  
Sacramento, CA 95825

When submitting comments including your address, phone number, email address, or any other personal identifying information, be aware that your entire comment — including your personal identifying information — may be made publicly available at any time. While you can request, in your comment, to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

### Deadline for Comments

Comments must be received by Dec 31, 2012 to be considered for development of the final proposal.

Open House Info

